

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07375 291623Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03

OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02

SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01

AF-10 EA-10 EUR-12 /131 W

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R 291548Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 690

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, UNCTAD

SUBJ: UNCTAD TDB: SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I CONCLUDES DEBATE ON  
TRADE ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: IN DEBATE ON TRADE ISSUES AT THE 17TH UNCTAD  
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TDB), MEMBERS OF THE G-77 EX-  
PRESSED THE HOPE THAT THEY WILL INDEED RECEIVE SPECIAL AND  
DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE REVITALIZED MTN, AND THAT THE  
MULTI-FIBERS AGREEMENT (MFA) BE EXTENDED IN ITS PRESENT  
FORM. BEFORE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I TOOK NOTE OF THE REPORTS  
OF THE COMMITTEES ON MANUFACTURES AND PREFERENCES,  
AUGUST 26, INDIA, SUPPORTED BY THE REST OF THE G-77, CALLED  
FOR CLOSER COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNCTAD AND UNIDO IN THE  
MANUFACTURES AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FIELDS, AND SUG-  
GESTED THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON  
MANUFACTURES FOCUS ON ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN  
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. GROUP B RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THE  
G-77 SUGGESTIONS, BUT EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT IT WOULD BE  
PRODUCTIVE TO PURSUE OUR WORK ON THE BASIS OF LONGSTANDING  
LDC RESOLUTION ON ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (TD/B/C.2/L.70).

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 07375 291623Z

END SUMMARY.

2. IN DEBATE ON MANUFACTURES IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I  
OF THE 17TH UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD, AUGUST 25-26,  
STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY INDIA, BRAZIL, PAKISTAN, YUGOSLAVIA,  
EGYPT, MEXICO, COLOMBIA AND PERU, WHO ALL EXPRESSED  
REGRET THAT RELATIVELY LITTLE WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT THE LAST

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES, BUT WELCOMED THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE SINCE THEN IN REVITALIZING THE MTN. THEY ALL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE LDCS WOULD ACTUALLY RECEIVE SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE MTN, AND SEVERAL ALSO EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO ACHIEVE PARALLEL PROGRESS SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THE FRAMEWORK GROUP. BRAZIL CLAIMED THAT NO SATISFACTORY PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS, WHICH IT DESCRIBED AS A MAJOR PRIORITY OF THE LDCS.

3. ALL OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED COUNTRIES MADE A STRONG PITCH ON TEXTILES AS A VITALLY IMPORTANT INDUSTRY TO THE LDCS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE MULTI-FIBERS AGREEMENT (MFA) COULD BE EXTENDED IN ITS PRESENT FORM, SINCE THEY RECOGNIZED THAT IT WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO LIBERALIZE OR ELIMINATE IT.

4. THE INDIAN DELEGATE (SHUKLA) EXPRESSED THE NEED FOR CLOSER COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNCTAD AND UNIDO IN WORK ON MANUFACTURES AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND SUGGESTED THAT A JOINT SESSION OF THE UNCTAD TDB AND THE UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MIGHT BE CONVENED TO ESTABLISH A CONCRETE PROGRAM OF ACTION. WHILE THIS IDEA WAS LATER ENDORSED BY THE G-77 SPOKESMAN (YUGOSLAVIA), SHUKLA TOLD UNCTAD THAT HIS SUGGESTION OF HOLDING A JOINT UNCTAD/UNIDO BOARD SESSION HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE G-77. SHUKLA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 07375 291623Z

ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IN ORDER TO STEM A "RISING TIDE OF PROTECTIONISM", ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (INCLUDING THE LONG-STANDING G-77 DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT), SHOULD BE STUDIED AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES. THIS SUGGESTION WAS ALSO ENDORSED BY THE G-77 SPOKESMAN.

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE G-77, THE GROUP B SPOKESMAN (LEROUX OF FRANCE) NOTED THAT ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE WAS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MANUFACTURES COMMITTEE MEETING, BUT THAT GROUP B DOES NOT THINK IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE TO BASE OUR WORK IN THIS AREA ON THE OLD G-77 DRAFT RESOLUTION (TD/B/C.2/L.70). THE GROUP B STATEMENT ALSO ENDORSED THE IDEA OF CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN UNCTAD AND UNIDO, BUT INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SCHEDULE A JOINT MEETING OF THE UNCTAD/UNIDO BOARDS UNTIL WE HAVE FURTHER DETAILS OF A PROPOSED AGENDA FOR SUCH A MEETING. FINALLY, THE STATEMENT SUGGESTED THAT THE DATES FOR THE NEXT MANUFACTURES COMMITTEE MEETING SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE AND SUBJECT TO THE QUARTERLY CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE UNCTAD SECRETARY AND THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS ON THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS. GROUP B ALSO EXPRESSED

PLEASURE AT PROSPECT OF MORE RAPID MTN PROGRESS.  
GROUP B DID NOT ADDRESS THE TEXTILE MFA RENEWAL ISSUE.VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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